

ISRAEL TO SEEK THE EXTRADITION
OF MORE NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 4 (JTA) — Justice Minister Moshe Nissim said Monday that Israel would seek the extradition of more Nazi war criminals living abroad but only if there is sufficient evidence to place them on trial. The first accused war criminal ever extradited to Israel, Ukrainian-born John Demjanjuk, a retired auto worker from Cleveland, Ohio, was brought to Israel by U.S. marshals last Friday and was remanded in custody Sunday by a Jerusalem court.

Nissim said his Ministry is engaged in a concerted effort to gather all available information on other alleged war criminals residing in the U.S. But Israel has not asked for their extradition because there is presently not enough evidence to convict them, Nissim said.

Demjanjuk, 65, has been confined to an isolation cell at the Ayalon prison in Ramla, southeast of Tel Aviv. He was interrogated for four hours Monday but no details were made available to the media.

The authorities have taken pains to prevent leaks to the press to ensure a fair trial. Haaretz reported Tuesday that Demjanjuk continued to insist on his innocence under interrogation as he did at his court appearance Sunday.

He is accused of having been a guard at the Treblinka death camp in Poland and to actually have operated the gas chambers where hundreds of thousands of Jews were killed during World War II. He has been identified by survivors as the guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" because of his brutal treatment of camp inmates.

Interrogation To Take Two Months

The interrogation process is expected to take two months, after which a charge sheet will be prepared. His trial will be held in a special hall at the Binyanei Haoma Convention Center in Jerusalem.

According to reports from the prison, Demjanjuk sleeps a lot and talks to his guards when he is not being interrogated. He will undergo a comprehensive medical examination in the next few days. He wrote his first letter to his family on Sunday. So far he has not asked for books or newspapers.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES
EXTENT OF ANTI-SEMITISM
AMONG FARMERS IN DISPUTE

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) — A claim by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, based on a telephone survey, that reports of growing anti-Semitism in the American Farm Belt have been "grossly exaggerated" was challenged Tuesday by two American Jewish Committee officials and the head of an independent group monitoring extremist activities in the Midwest.

The ADL, based on a survey of 600 persons in Iowa and Nebraska conducted January 23-24 by Louis Harris and Associates, concluded that far-right extremist groups that seek to stir up anti-Semitism by

exploiting the farm crisis "have failed in their mission." "The results clearly show that the American farmer, although hard hit economically, is decidedly not as vulnerable to bigotry as those who shrilly cry wolf about anti-Semitism would have us believe," said Nathan Perlmutter, ADL national director.

While not disputing the statistical data drawn from the survey — that about one in four of the respondents revealed anti-Semitic sentiments — Rabbi James Rudin, interreligious affairs director of the AJC, said, "I draw very little comfort when one out of four farmers responded with anti-Semitic sentiments."

In a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Rudin said, "I draw no comfort from that survey and neither do I think the Jewish community should." Rudin has made several fact-finding trips to the Midwest, meeting with farmers and religious leaders.

Estimates Of Hard-Core Activists

Similar sentiments were expressed by Leonard Zeskind, research director of the Center for Democratic Renewal, an Atlanta-based organization that has monitored anti-Semitic and extremist groups in the Farm Belt, and which has also been the source of much information for concerned Jewish groups.

In a 10-page report issued last year, Zeskind reported that while exact numbers on the various extremist organizational efforts do not exist, "it is estimated that the racist and anti-Semitic movement has between 2,000 and 5,000 hard-core activists in the Great Plains Midwest, and between seven and ten sympathizers for each activist."

He asserted that these figures do not differ much with the ADL survey. He said each year the "situation has progressively gotten worse. There have been more meetings by anti-Semites that have been better attended each year and there has been a wider distribution of literature."

The ADL noted that extremist groups have tried to persuade American farmers that Jews are largely responsible for their problems. But the survey found that those polled blamed their difficulties by and large on others, such as the Reagan Administration and Congress.

Responses To Questionnaire

In the series of questions to test latent attitudes, 75 percent of the respondents put a "great deal" of the blame for the farm problems on "big international bankers." When a key modifier was added, only 27 percent agreed with a statement that farmers had been exploited by "international Jewish bankers."

Asked to what extent they considered "certain religious groups, such as Jews" responsible for the farm crisis, 4 percent of those surveyed said "a great deal," 9 percent said "somewhat" and 79 percent replied "not very much." Furthermore, the poll asked respondents whether they agreed or disagreed with a series of derogatory statements about Jews and other minorities, designed to gauge the extent of anti-Semitism.

In that survey, less than one-third of those polled responded affirmatively to statements such as "Jews are irritating because they are too aggressive," or that "Jews feel superior to other groups."

"Although these figures are, of course, grounds for concern," Perlmutter said, "it should be borne in mind that in previous polls in America, repeated over many years, approximately one-third of those surveyed have traditionally expressed anti-Semitic sentiments."

He added: "But it is noteworthy that despite hard times and the anticipated scapegoating that accompanies difficulties, anti-Semitism has not caught hold. A substantial majority of those questioned in the Harris Poll are simply not anti-Semitic."

In response to Perlmutter, Rudin said that "the American Jewish Committee has always said that the overwhelming majority of American farmers are democratic, pluralistic and non-violent." He cautioned, "It is a virus, and I think that when you have a small amount, it is a virus that has to be rooted out."

A Conclusion In The Survey

The ADL survey concluded that comparatively few farmers are even aware of the major extremist groups seeking to exploit the situation. Only 50 percent of those surveyed had heard about or were familiar with the National Agricultural Press Association, a group combining do-it-yourself help to hard-pressed farmers with anti-Jewish propaganda.

Even fewer — 29 percent of those surveyed — had heard of the Populist Party, the most active U.S. organization seeking to recruit supporters among farmers. Only 24 percent of those polled were acquainted with Posse Comitatus, the anti-Semitic organization of loosely affiliated groups of armed vigilantes.

More significant, ADL stated, was the finding that "when asked if they had been to any meetings or belonged to these organizations, 98 percent said they had had no such association with these groups." Direct involvement by farmers with extremist groups, the Harris Poll concluded, has been "minimal or minute."

Jonathan Levine, the AJC's regional director in Chicago who has worked on the farm situation, said in a telephone interview Tuesday that the statistics cited by the ADL are of concern. "We know it is probably as high or higher in Missouri, South Dakota and elsewhere," he asserted.

He pointed out that in rural populations where a town may have merely 7,000-8,000 people, when a small percentage of that group is active, "that number to me is of concern It seems to me that when you're dealing with a dispersed rural population ... that we not minimize the potential danger and our risk."

REPORT WALDHEIM SERVED ON STAFF OF GERMAN GENERAL WHO WAS IMPLICATED IN MASS DEPORTATIONS OF JEWS

NEW YORK, March 4 (JTA) — Former United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim served on the staff of a German army general in 1943 who was described as "perhaps more implicated in Jewish deportations than any other Wehrmacht commander," the World Jewish Congress revealed Tuesday.

The documents follow the disclosure in Vienna that Waldheim, now a conservative candidate for the Presidency of Austria, had an active Nazi past. Documents published in Vienna show Waldheim in his youth was a member of the Nazi SA and the National Socialist Student Organization. (See March 4 Bulletin.)

Waldheim had denied membership in either, but later conceded that he had in fact joined the groups in order to protect his family. Waldheim's association with the SA was in his pursuit of horseback riding. The records of Waldheim's de-Nazification process in 1946 confirmed that his association with the SA was solely in pursuit of his passion for horseback riding.

The WJC documents disclose that Waldheim served on Gen. Alexander Loehr's staff at Salonika, Greece, in March, 1943 when at the same time Wehrmacht trains were carrying 2,000-2,500 Jews to Auschwitz nearly every day. Waldheim has denied knowing of any deportations.

"I regret these things most deeply, but I have to repeat that it is really the first time that I hear such things happened," Waldheim told The New York Times. "I never heard or learned anything of this while I was there. I hear for the first time that there were deportations of Jews from there."

According to the WJC, documents and testimony at the Nuremberg trials established that Loehr and personnel under his command supervised the 1943 deportations to Auschwitz of the large Jewish community in Salonika. The operation, conducted with SS assistance, began in mid-March 1943 and was largely over by mid-May, by which time more than 42,000 men, women and children had been transported to Poland, where most were gassed shortly after arrival at the death camp.

SAN FRANCISCO'S ECONOMY TO GET A BOOST FROM ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 4 (JTA) — Israel will aid the economy of San Francisco as a result of an agreement signed in Haifa Monday by Mayor Dianne Feinstein of San Francisco and Matty Morgenstern, general manager of the State-owned Zim Lines.

The 10-year pact provides for ships of the Zim Container Services to call at San Francisco on their outward voyages to the Far East instead of at the port of Oakland across the bay, where they have been docking until now. The switch is expected to bring millions of dollars worth of business to the port of San Francisco, save Zim a half-million dollars a year in lower harbor dues and benefit shippers by faster service.

Feinstein, who is Jewish, came to Israel to sign the agreement and to strengthen San Francisco's sister-city relationship with Haifa, Israel's main sea port. Sister-city relations tend to be cultural and educational, typified by student exchanges and the maritime archaeological exhibit that Haifa sent to the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco in 1983. The port-of-call arrangement with Zim is an economic coup.

Zim Has Largest Fleet Of Containers

The Israeli shipping company boasts one of the largest fleets of container ships in the world under single ownership. Most general cargos are containerized. The agreement with San Francisco, under negotiation for five years, hinged on completion of a container terminal in the Golden Gate city.

It is the only container terminal in California with a railroad on the quays. This allows ships to unload containers directly on railroad flatcars instead of on trucks which must deliver them to the railroad terminals.

The containership Zim Keelung will inaugurate the service on March 21. Feinstein said after the signing

ceremonies that she was delighted to have landed Zim because of its size and reputation among shippers. She said she still hopes to persuade the Zim management to schedule calls at San Francisco on homeward voyages from the Far East. But Zim officials noted that their ships call at U.S. East Coast ports on their return trips, by-passing California.

Busy Schedule For Feinstein

Before signing the agreement, Feinstein went jogging on Mt. Carmel and visited tourist sites in the Haifa area. While in Israel she will visit Jerusalem for meetings with Mayor Teddy Kollek and various government officials. She will also visit Tel Aviv.

Before leaving the U.S., she said she had hoped to visit Kiryat Shmona, San Francisco's Project Renewal city on the Lebanese border, but may not be able to do so because of lack of time.

Zim pioneered its trans-Pacific service to the Far East in the early 1960's. The service, known then as Pacific Star Line, employed chartered vessels. Zim now has 10 containerhips on the run.

**At The UJA Young Leadership Conference:
A BILL TO REDUCE ISRAEL'S DEBT
TO THE U.S. WAS POSTPONED IN THE
SENATE AFTER THE ARREST OF POLLARD**
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 4 (JTA) — Sen. Joseph Biden (D. Del.) asserted Tuesday that a bill that would have reduced Israel's debt to the United States by \$3.5 billion was postponed in the Senate last December in the wake of the arrest of Jonathan Pollard for spying for Israel.

A bill that would have passed was withdrawn within 24 hours of Pollard's arrest because "American public opinion shifted dramatically," Biden told the nearly 3,000 young Jewish leaders attending the closing session of the United Jewish Appeal's Fifth National Young Leadership Conference.

The bill, sponsored by Sens. Daniel Inouye (D. Ha.) and Robert Kasten (R. Wisc.), would have reduced the interest Israel pays to five percent, about half of the current rate of interest. At the time, supporters of the bill said it was withdrawn because of the budget crunch caused by the Gramm-Rudman Act.

Biden charged that for the past two Administrations there has been a lack of "a comprehensive foreign policy" for the Middle East. He said this has allowed American public opinion to move out of focus and thereby become susceptible to reducing its commitment to Israel.

Changing Perception Of Israel

In addition, Biden noted that where Israel was once considered the "David" of the Middle East, it is now viewed as the "Goliath." Biden also claimed that while a former generation of Jews and non-Jews viewed Israel as a moral issue because of the Holocaust, younger Americans do not.

He said the U.S. must announce that Israel is an ally and treat it like one, keeping any differences in private and not making public criticism of Israel.

Biden stressed that the strategic importance of Israel, to the United States should also be pointed out. "We don't apologize for our \$100 billion commitment to NATO," he said. "Why the hell should we apologize for a \$3 billion commitment to Israel."

At the morning session, Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) called on King Hussein of Jordan, now that he has abandoned "his nefarious pact" with the Palestine Liberation Organization, to negotiate peace with Israel. "The time has come for King Hussein to stop talking about peace in the abstract and start talking with Israel directly and at the conference table," Kennedy said.

He said the U.S. should abandon proposals to sell arms to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. "Instead of trafficking recklessly in numbers like F-15's, F-16's and F-20's, the Administration should be tirelessly pursuing the two most important numbers for the Middle East — United Nations (Security Council) Resolutions 242 and 338."

Speaking about Soviet Jewry, Kennedy noted that during his recent visit to the Soviet Union he was given a promise that 25 persons would be allowed to emigrate. But he said their release and that of Anatoly Shcharansky "in no way diminishes our demands that thousands more must be permitted to leave."

Kennedy said in his talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev he found no indication of any movement on human rights. He said when President Reagan meets Gorbachev again and makes the case for arms control "he must also make the case for justice, for human rights and for an end to religious persecution by the Kremlin."

FLAP OVER U.S. OFFICIAL'S VIEW THAT ISRAEL AND THE PLO ARE GUILTY OF TERRORIST ACTS

WASHINGTON, March 4 (JTA) — The Israel Embassy has demanded a formal explanation of a State Department official's statement that both Israel and the PLO are guilty of terrorist acts.

Those comments were made by Gordon Brown, director of Arabian Peninsula Affairs at the State Department, in the course of an interview via satellite with Arab reporters. The interview was broadcast on "Worldnet", a program of the U.S. Information Service (USIA).

Asked if the U.S. considered Israel's bombing of Beirut in 1982 a terrorist act, Brown replied, "It's terrorism to the same degree I suppose as Katyusha rockets across the (Israeli) border are." He added that such actions were part of the unresolved Arab-Israeli conflict and that American complaints of terrorism in the Middle East were aimed at murders and hijackings.

Asked if he meant some PLO acts were also part of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Brown said, "Some PLO actions I would suspect would fall within our definition of legitimate actions of resistance within occupied territories, others clearly would not, such as the Munich massacre and others." The Israeli Olympic team was massacred by Palestinian terrorists in Munich in 1972.

A State Department spokesman said the views expressed by Brown were his own and did not reflect U.S. policy. He called the episode a "tempest in a teapot."

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Keisis, the religious leaders of the Ethiopian Jewish community, decided this week to defy the Chief Rabbinate Council and perform marriages between Ethiopian couples privately without ritual immersion or other symbolic conversion rites the Rabbinate demands.

RABBIS AMONG YOUNG WARRIORS II

By Albert W. Bloom

(Second in a Four-Part Series for JTA)

*The face of the waters and the face of the heavens...
And between them is my heart, a third sea,
Lifting up ever anew my waves of praise...*

Judah Halevi

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (JTA)—The story goes: two trim young Jewish navy officers, graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, meet in New London. One says to the other:

"You and I have something in common."

"What is that?"

"The Lindauers' ice-box!"

On the Lindauer "fridge" hangs a "Memo for Mids":

"For the harmony of the 'Lindauer Hilton' please:

"1. Call if you want to come over.

"2. Coordinate with other Mids of the house.

"3. Fill ice trays.

"4. Take out the garbage.

"5. Stack dishes in dishwasher.

"6. If we're not at home, last one out secure the house.

"7. There's always food and drink; if you want something special, you supply.

"We're always available for tea, sympathy, and chicken soup.

The Management"

Lindauer 'Home Away from Home'

That story aptly illustrates how the midshipmen and their Gentile friends feel about the firm yet gentle JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy-certified "lay leader," Colonel Harry Lindauer (U.S. Army, Ret.) and his warm and charming wife Thea.

Theirs is a home-away-from-home for a virtual revolving-door parade of young men and women midshipmen who may be homesick, tense under academic pressure and military discipline, or just in need of homey relaxation and a change of pace.

Thea is known as "Mother of the Brigade" at Annapolis. "Just don't make me grandmother of the Brigade," she laughs.

Survivors of the Holocaust

She and her husband, Colonel Lindauer, a retired Military Intelligence officer of World War II and Patton's Army in the Battle of the Bulge, have given their home and their own parental warmth to midshipmen from all over America.

They are both Holocaust survivors, who know what family means and how loneliness can gnaw at those far from home.

Harry (once it was Heinz) came to Chicago, was drafted in March of 1941, went to Army officer's candidate school in 1944 and served in the European Theater of Operations in England, France, Belgium and Germany.

Patton Taught Him to 'Cuss, American Style'

His knowledge of Europe and the German language gave him an opportunity for a career in intelligence, where he took General Patton's advice in the Battle of the Bulge "to cuss, American style." It was protective since Germans were dropped behind U.S. lines in U.S. uniforms. U.S. security was tight, and to be able "to cuss in American" supplied swift identification "and not get shot" by U.S. security patrols.

Two years before his retirement, he had started being "a lay leader" for JWB-CJC, a volunteer service for Jewish servicemen.

'A Visible Entity'

There are 41 Jewish midshipmen at Annapolis, one of them a woman. The Jewish squad is a small but visible entity, with their newly furnished and remodeled Jewish Chapel in one of the Naval Academy's historic buildings, Mitscher Hall, a project sparked and nursed to fruition by the Lindauers.

Beyond their official duties, the Lindauers "sponsor four kids." Every midshipman has a sponsor-family whom he or she could look to as surrogate parents and a place to relax.

Mrs. Lindauer introduces the midshipmen to a touch of civilian life at her home. The "kids bring their parents, friends and grandparents. One midshipman came back to visit with three children of his own. They call on Mother's Day and when they have babies."

Annapolis soon is due to have a full-time, uniformed, active-duty Navy chaplain assigned to Annapolis. He is expected to be Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) Norman Auerback of the Bethesda Naval

Medical Center. No one is final about such things officially until "the orders are cut." But whoever is assigned, the Lindauers are looking forward to helping him get settled in.

No Monetary Payment

As lay leader, Colonel Lindauer gets no monetary payment, only psychic rewards. Ongoing support and monitoring of lay leadership activities is an important function of the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, which assures the often-isolated Jewish volunteer lay leader that his efforts are recognized.

Patriotism and moral duty are twin supports of the professional naval officer, which midshipmen will become. Their religious background and belief plays a larger role in this than most civilians realize. Rear Adm. Stephen K. Chadwick, Commandant of Midshipmen, emphasized: "Our U.S. Naval Academy is a great educational institution and gives you a chance to serve your country. Our ideals are compatible with everyone's faith. These men and women here are a great national asset. Their religious training will sustain them."

JWB Encourages Their Jewishness

As a symbol of the encouragement that JWB gives these midshipmen to stay connected to Jewish life, JWB gives each one of them a Jewish Bible upon his or her graduation.

Midshipman Matthew Horn, 20, of Monroe, N.Y., a former Yeshiva University student, son of Michael and Paula Horne, reflects a solid religious training. His father is an accountant. Matthew sees his role in national service. "I've always wanted to be a Marine Corps officer," he said. (Many Annapolis graduates choose to enter the Marines upon graduating from the Naval Academy.)

Midshipman Louis P. Feuchtbau, 23, son of pharmacist Donald and Linda Feuchtbau, Spring Valley, N.Y., feels similarly: "The Academy trains the 'whole person'; there are moral challenges and physical challenges in serving our country. I love the sea and ships."

Feuchtbau, a "firstie" upperclassman, is Deputy Honor Chairman at the Academy. He helps supervise the honor system. Any anti-Semitism? "We have never run into anti-Semites as a problem," he says. "Once in a while we see it on an individual basis."

Midshipman Michael Harnett, 19, son of Dr. Jeffrey and Barbara Harnett, of Huntington, N.Y., sees Annapolis "as a challenging way to serve my country in a challenging profession. My religion is supportive and necessary."

Midshipman Scott Shire, son of Louis and Lois Shire of Pittsburgh, Pa., sees the Academy's religious opportunities as a recognition of America's religious freedom in action.

Colonel Lindauer nudges the midshipmen to take their own leadership into their religious service. The dignified Naval Cadet Jewish Chapel is used for Friday night Sabbath services conducted by the midshipmen under Lindauer's guidance.

Chaplain (Capt.) John G. Glynn, the Command Chaplain at the Academy and a Catholic priest, enjoys visiting and dining with the cadets and Colonel and Thea Lindauer.

"Midshipmen don't have to go far to meet their chaplain," he says. "We make ourselves visible to them the day they arrive."

High school students of all faith groups interested in Annapolis can write to Director, Candidate Guidance, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21412; or phone (301) 267-4361.

Jewish Chaplains Are Vital

Jewish chaplains in the military services are vital in visibility as symbols of our tri-faith and multi-faith democracy. The JWB Commission-endorsed Jewish chaplains number: Army, 25; Navy, 14; Air Force, 12; Veterans Administration, 13. This does not include reservists who go on temporary duty who number about 200; nor does it include 160 part-time chaplains.

Lay leaders who are certified by the JWB-CJC number: Navy, 90; Army, 60; Air Force, 40.

Seminarians (theological student-chaplains, mostly Navy) get JWB-CJC "approved" status during their training and service.

Rabbis among young warriors, all.

Taken together, they represent a special national treasure for the military services and America's civilian society.

Specifically, the Jewish community needs to become more aware of our chaplains, the special needs of Jewish men and women in uniform and the Jewish young men and women officers-in-training at the national service academies—future leaders of America's power to preserve the peace.

Next: "Off They Go Into the Wild Blue Yonder..."